



AFRICA INTER-MENNONITE MISSION

FORMERLY CONGO INLAND MISSION

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SYNOPSIS

Of The

Bertsche/Wiebe Trip

Summer of 1975

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REPORT OF BERTSCHE/WIEBE TRIP

I. ITINERARY

July 11-12	South Bend/Kinshasa
July 12-30	Zaire
July 31	To Johannesburg
August 1-5	Lesotho
August 6	To Johannesburg
August 7	To Gaborones
August 8-13	Botswana
August 14	To Nairobi
August 15-17	In Nairobi area
August 18-19	In Abidjan, Ivory Coast
August 20-23	In Upper Volta
August 24	In Dakar
August 25-26	New York City/Cleveland/South Bend

II. ZAIRE

A. Missionary Personnel

1. We were able to see all missionaries and MCC personnel who were in CMZA area during the dates of our trip, except Fred Suter at Kabeya Kamuanga.

a. Kinshasa

- Walter and Betty Shelly
- Peter and Gladys Buller
- John and Betty Jean Franz (on the way up-country)
- Herman and Ruth Buller (on the way out)

b. Mukedi

- John and Olga Klaassen
- Don and Naomi Unruh
- Nancy Hiesey, TAP teacher

c. Nyanga

- LaVerna Dick
- Betty Quiring
- Fremont and Sara Regier
- Arnold and Grace Harder
- Albert and Annie Drudge (VS)
- Bob and Carol Fish (MAF)

d. Banga

- Glenn and Ina Locke

e. Mutema

- Elmer and Esther Dick

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- Lois Slagle
- Leona Schrag

f. Tshikapa

- Earl and Ruth Roth
- Henry and Betty Loewen (during plane stop)

g. Kalonda

- John and Martha Byler
- Anna V. Liechty
- Sam and Leona Entz
- Tina Quiring

h. Kananga

- Delbert and Sue Dick

i. Tshikajji

- John and Jeanne Zook
- Marjorie Neuenschwander
- Sonya Strahm (VS)

j. Mbujimayi

- Aden and Cheryl Frey (MCC)

B. Issues/Findings

1. Political Situation

a. Recent rumored coup attempt

- (1) Some temporary tension in centers - little impact in the bush
- (2) Open expression of dissatisfaction with present regime much more common now than a year ago.

b. Deportation of U.S. Ambassador Hinton

- (1) Kinshasa Embassy personnel profess innocence and amazement

- "We were caught unawares," professed a political officer.

(2) American strategy:

- play the whole incident in a low key manner
- a new ambassador to be named soon

c. Some dynamics of the incident:

- (1) Hinton was an unpopular nomination
- (2) Hinton applied pressure regarding the U.S. University students held hostage in Eastern Zaire for several weeks - resulting in unwanted publicity embarrassing for Mobutu.
- (3) It is believed that there probably was some political dissent in process taking shape.
- (4) Mobutu has frequently been criticized by other African leaders for being too pro-West.
- (5) It is the consensus of many that by accusing and "booting" the American Ambassador for complicity in the matter, he was able to rid himself of an unpopular diplomatic personality and adjust his own image in Africa somewhat in the process.

2. Nationalization of Schools

- a. Initially the government came on strong laying a rough hand on both equipment and personnel.
- b. Catholics threatened a mass walk-out of teaching personnel; this has prompted an unofficial easing of procedures. Take-over proceeds at a slower tempo; missionary personnel are urged to stay on in previous assignments.

3. Nationalization of Zairian Businesses

- a. This decision was announced with great fanfare in January of this year; application has been slow and spotty in view of serious resistance in some sectors.
- b. Regrouping of rural populations into agricultural labour brigades was also promised but nothing has yet been done.
- c. Pre-school child care centers were also to be established as of this September. There was considerable evidence of building (via parental donation of materials and labour) but no details as to how the centers were to function or to be staffed.

4. Economic Situation

- a. Shrinking copper prices on one hand and rising costs of processed goods on the other have shaken Zaire's economy.
- b. Many commodities are in very short supply.

- c. The lower brackets of wage-earners are caught in a grim squeeze.

- A recent 30% wage increase has been ordered for lower wage echelons.

- d. Progress on development of hydro-electric power and roads.

- (1) Pylons for the Inga-Shaba power line are going in
 - (2) Surveying and clearing for the trans-national all-weather road continues.
 - (3) A couple of major bridges are under construction.

C. Eglise du Christ au Zaïre (ECZ)

- 1. After several years of large prominence and influence, Rev. Bokoleale came under heavy fire at the last Annual Assembly.

- 2. Basic criticisms:

- a. The ECZ has been tied too closely with the government.
 - b. The ECZ has been too political in its pronouncements and publicity.
 - c. The ECZ has acted too independently of the opinions and wishes of its member groups.

- 3. A move was underway to "unseat" Bokoleale.

- a. He was finally reappointed to a third term but strongly admonished to correct his ways.

- 4. In an interview with him, we asked how he would define "aid" for the Zaïrian Church at this point. His response:

- a. Leadership Training
 - b. Projects of auto-finance

- 5. What about the moratorium issue?

- a. "It's Biblical, but so is the Brotherhood of Believers; how to reconcile the two?"
 - b. "If it has to be that to save the African church, then we will have to go that route and make whatever sacrifices are necessary. "
 - c. "But Burgess Carr and others who are most vocal still keep a tight hold on overseas sources of financial help! "
 - d. "The Zaïre Church still needs and welcomes much help and the 'right' sort of missionary personnel as in the past."

6. How to evaluate the current political situation in Zaire?
 - a. Mobutu literally saved his country from disaster.
 - b. Mobutu is a forceful person who can never accept that someone surpass him in status or power in Zaire.
 - c. He is engaged in a battle with a "state within a state" (i.e. the Catholic Church).
 - d. He carries on this battle as a Catholic with both background, training and upbringing as a Catholic.
 - e. Major measures taken thus far have been basically anti-Catholic but in application have also effected us as Protestants.
 - f. (For the first time Bokolele expresses reserve and disagreement regarding Mobutu and the current political regime.)

D. Theological Training

1. The "Faculte" (college-level training) of all three religious groups (Protestant, Catholic, Kimbanguist) were removed both from university premises and government support in January of this year.
2. The Protestant section has made arrangements for temporary location on ETEK's campus as of this Fall. Financing of the program is another matter. ECZ has named a controlling Board chaired by Bishop Onema of the Methodist Church which has met a couple of times; sketched both an operating budget and askings for the building of its own campus. Appeals in writing have already been made.
3. The ETEK (now called IST for "Institut Supérieure de Théologie") program is also in considerable question.
 - a. It had been functioning at a level roughly overlapping senior high/junior college levels.
 - This simply because the candidates were at this level and the churches' need was at this level.
 - b. Due to recent ECZ pressure, entrance requirements as of September 1975 were set at post-secondary level and a course of study proposed roughly paralleling the first three years of "Faculte" study and terminating there.

- c. General attitude among church leaders seems to be; "If ECZ wants an IST, let them run it and finance it."
- d. When we were in Kinshasa, it was still not clear if there would be a first year class entering this Fall.
- e. In brief, while our own Bible school at Tshikapa suddenly assumes fresh significance, upper levels of theological training in Zaire are in question.

E. The C.M.Z.A.

1. Rev. Kabangy's Illness

- a. After months of increasing discomfort, what at first was thought to be an inflamed nerve was revealed by X-ray to be a tumor high on the bone of the upper left leg.
- b. During the last days the bone fractured at the point of the tumor.
- c. Rev. Kabangy was flown to Kinshasa, admitted to Mama Yemo Hospital (so named for Mobutu's mother); Dr. Cal Johnson, a Christian doctor on staff, performed surgery.
- d. X-rays and surgery confirmed that Kabangy has multiple-myeloma.
- e. In conversation with Dr. Johnson, the following comments were made:
 - "Rev. Kabangy is making good recovery from surgery and short term prognosis is good."
 - "Long term prognosis is not good."
- f. Chemical therapy is to be started soon which has been effective in some similar cases.
- g. Through all of his difficult experiences, Pastor Kabangy maintained a clear testimony and declared repeatedly that he is in God's hands and that he submits to God's Will for him - whatever that may be.
- h. In the meantime, Rev. Kabongo Bukasa, Kabangy's assistant has been thrust into sudden heavy responsibility.
- i. Expenses incurred in travel, lodging and medical care have already exceeded \$1,000. The Zaire Church will find it very difficult to carry these unexpected expenses alone.

2. The church is under pressure and in some ways is off balance as a result of various recent events:
 - a. Nationalization of Education; the initial heavy-handed government manner in claiming church properties and equipment related to education; the likely wholesale transfer of teachers and directors.
 - (1) A resultant problem for many of the ETEK graduates who have been serving in CMZA schools as directors, teachers or professors of Religion: to stay with government as teachers and be transferred elsewhere or renounce the teaching profession (and government pay scale) and stay with the church for whatever the church can give them.
 - b. A shift in attitude of government authorities vis-a-vis the church.
 - (1) The mission/church community had been accustomed to a certain privileged status. Now the church and its leaders can assume no preferential treatment.
 - (a) Pastor Ghymalu, working with the Pende Bible translation project at Nyanga was recently roughed up and bloodied at a hearing involving a fellow countryman from across the Loange River.
 - (b) A rash of palavers and lawsuits lodged against the church by disgruntled people.
 - i. CMZA recently was obliged to pay a former nurse in excess of \$2,000 in settlement for a complaint to court.
 - ii. The fact that he had no legitimate claim made no difference since he employed a clever lawyer.
 - c. A sharp drop in giving to the church as the former CMZA teaching staff has now come under the direct administration of the State.
 - d. The AIMM Board notice that further budget help for AIMM Administrative costs would in some manner be linked to CMZA's own contributions to such costs.
 - e. The Kimbanguist Church's aggressive program in some areas:
 - (1) Their favorite claims:

- "We are the only 'black' church of Zaire."

- "We are the church of the future in Zaire."
- "We are in direct contact with God and can pray effectively for you in your need."

f. Opportunist church leaders here and there who are not above exploiting CMZA for personal interest if the opportunity arises.

g. A strong tide of regionalism is now running.

(1) The CMZA Baluba of the Kabeya Kamuanga/Mbujimayi area have now split into two hostile camps.

(a) The leader of the recent dissident group makes no secret of the fact that he takes Pastor Kazadi as his example.

- His assumption: If he holds out long enough and noisily enough he too will one day win the recognition and blessing of all concerned - including AIMM!

(2) It is reported that some voices were raised in one district conference this past summer urging that relations be severed with Tshikapa and negotiations be opened directly with Elkhart!

h. CMZA leaders were clearly feeling their need for some sense of direction at the moment of our visit.

(1) There was immediate response to the idea of a GPS study; the bulk of our two days with the CAR (CMZA Executive Committee) was spent in spelling out the attached priorities, goals and strategies.

(2) It was most encouraging to find that the leaders clearly saw CMZA problems as being basically spiritual in nature and needed, therefore, some spiritual solutions. It was from this springboard that discussion and planning was launched.

(3) Pastor Kabangy declared it his "5 year plan" when he saw it spelled out on paper.

3. Points of High Interest to CMZA Leadership Now

a. The new TEE Program

(1) To be related to the present Bible Institute at Kalonda.

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- (2) Rudy Martens to be free to give full time to it.
- (3) An ad hoc committee of five missionaries and five Zairians to meet early this Fall for as long as it will take to spell out an approach and program adapted to our situation in Zaire.

b. Christian Education

- (1) The nationalization of education has suddenly cast a new light on the whole question of Christian education.
- (2) A new Christian Ed department has been created headed by Leona Schrag.
- (3) In the meantime some heartening initiative is being taken by individuals.
 - (a) A Tshikapa pastor who offers religious instruction after school next door to his church for children who want to stay.

c. Leadership Training

- (1) This oft-repeated cry will not soon be dropped.
- (2) Although there is agreement in principle to the one year overseas study program for some leaders, there is still the urgent request for at least a couple of pastors to take up degree study programs.
 - (a) The Tshikapa leaders ask that we review Mr. Mukanza's study program in the light of the offer of sending someone to Vaux. They want very much that one or the other be permitted to earn a degree in Theology.
 - (b) Pastor Mukanza has finished ten weeks of intensive English study at Brattleboro, Vermont; has done well and is currently getting settled into the first semester of his work at Elkhart Seminary.

4. The restructuring of the Tshikapa Bible School curriculum.

- a. With the financial pressures on the church increasing there has come the realization that for the foreseeable future there is no way for the district churches to pay their pastors an adequate living allowance in cash.

- b. There is now the interest to revamp the Bible School curriculum so as to allow for some practical manual training as well, with the idea that the graduates help to support themselves in rural pastorate in the future.
 - (1) This surely is a move in the right direction and should be encouraged and supported.
 - (2) MCC has expressed interest in this development and will likely be interested in helping with a grant to secure necessary equipment to inaugurate such training in conjunction with the Bible School.
- 5. A shift of focus away from EPROF at Djoko and the Girls' School at Nyanga.
 - a. These two schools had become increasingly expensive to operate; the teaching staffs engaged by the CMZA had become increasingly demanding.
 - b. When word came of the nationalization of education, the CMZA administration went on record to officially relinquish both schools this Fall even though neither had yet been subsidized.
 - (1) If, however, the State does not actually take responsibility for the schools this September, it remains to be seen whether CMZA will - or can - close them. Government and public pressure could build enormously.
 - c. At long range, the focus of interest is clearly on non-formal education especially in the area of training for women and girls.
 - (1) It is the hope of CMZA leadership:
 - (a) to use missionary personnel in such a program (i.e. LaVerna Dick and others)
 - (b) that the AIMM Women's Auxiliary will see fit to shift its support presently given to the girls' school to such a new ministry.
- 6. Sawmill Project
 - a. Auto-finance is a catch phrase heard in many places in Zaïre now. There are several contributing factors:
 - (1) The financial struggles of the church
 - (2) The efforts of ECZ in this area
 - (3) The impressive financial resources of the Catholic Church much of which comes from its investments.

- b. The news of the CIDA grant obtained by MEDA for a CMZA mobile saw unit was therefore greeted with satisfaction.

(Note some operating principles sketched in the Minutes of the CAR Meeting (Article #18) attached.)

- c. We repeated that which the delegation said last summer, i.e. This is not the Biblical pattern nor our manner of raising funds for the Lord's work. While we have little confidence in the long term success of the venture, it is not our business to oppose it. They will have to try it and learn whatever is to be learned from the experience.

F. Some General Impressions Accumulated Through the Zaire Trip

- 1. Recent government moves have the church on the defensive.
 - a. One often hears the phrase, "Mobutu has said..."
 - b. Still some hesitancy to hold public meetings in villages.
 - c. Aggressive attitude on the part of general public toward the church. There seems to be implicit encouragement by authorities to hassle the church.
 - d. Church authority to discipline is weakened.
- 2. Disillusionment both with government and the ECZ.
 - a. Phrases continually heard:
 - (1) "Trop de Changement" (i.e. "There is too much change.")
 - (2) "The ECZ seems to be marching in step with the government; it is no help to us."
 - (3) "We can no longer buy what we need..." (whether because of high prices or short supply)
 - (4) "The future is obscure!"
- 3. No relief in sight for CMZA's financial pressures.
 - a. Brutal inflation
 - b. Recent government order to increase wages 30%
 - c. About impossible to fire anyone
 - d. Recent drops in offerings
 - e. Lawsuits with forced payments
 - f. Kabangy's costly illness

4. Leadership Problems

- a. Kabangy sidelined by surgery; long term service in question.
- b. Thirteen Kajiji/ETEK graduates, presently on government pay as teachers, are asking CMZA what their future with CMZA is. (Obviously impossible for CMZA to keep them on at their present wage scale.)
- c. Powerful centrifugal forces at work just now within CMZA.

5. Kabongo Bukasa, recently named assistant Legal Representative and assistant general secretary by the CMZA has suddenly been thrust into responsibility and prominence by Kabangy's illness.

- a. He does have a gift for grasping principles and grappling with issues.
- b. Much will depend on Kabangy's readiness to allow him to function, to learn and to grow.

6. Bukungu Mishumbi, is on top of his job

- a. He holds the respect and confidence of missionaries and Zairians alike.
- b. Again came through a general audit of his accounts with flying colours.
- c. Recently ordained a "mukulu" in the Banga district; a man of faith and prayer and personal discipline.

7. Priority Break-through

- a. Our visit took place as Kabangy was sidelined but Bukungu and Kabongo clearly saw the need for some fresh approaches and some fresh initiatives in the light of current problems and pressures.
- b. Both quickly understood and seized upon a GPS concept and wanted to work it through in considerable detail while we were with them in Tshikapa.

8. Fairly good supportive staff at the CMZA Headquarters.

- a. Mupemba, Kabangy's secretary, an able, committed layman; capable in his job and deeply involved in the local church.
- b. Mata, Bukungu's understudy, already carrying considerable routine bookkeeping.

- c. Ibutshi, worked several years with Kakesa in the legal office and now knows the routine work better than anyone.

9. CMZA Districts - The Vital Unit of Zaire Church Life

- a. Once again it was clear that CMZA functions as a church at the district level.
- b. Church consciousness, church program, church impact, church life, church ministry, church outreach all function and take shape at this level.
- c. District church activity is spotty and uneven.
 - (1) In some areas there is comparative lethargy, discouragement, and inactivity, (i.e. Kandala, Djoko). In others there is vitality, activity and a grappling with issues of the day, (i.e. Nyanga, Banga, Tshikapa).
 - (2) But whatever the form or function of CMZA now may be it is at the district level that it emerges and takes shape.
 - (3) A basic question needs to be posed at this point:
 - How can AIMM relate more helpfully and affirmatively to the CMZA Church Districts?

G. Our Missionary Staff

- 1. There are the occasional persons who have had serious difficulty in finding themselves this term.
- 2. On the whole, however, it is our impression that our Zaire missionary staff works with deep commitment on the one hand and great flexibility on the other.
- 3. The philosophy of FUSION has been accepted and there is continual effort to make it work. The ongoing welcome extended to our staff by Zairians is testimony to their success in this effort.
- 4. In Don and Mary Lloyd and Albert and Annie Drudge AIMM has had some outstanding MCC voluntary service people.

H. The Community of Evangelical Mennonites (Pastor Kazadi's Group)

- 1. We spent one forenoon with Pastor Kazadi and Mr. Ntumba on their church grounds. During a stroll around the area we found:

- a. Secondary School students being enrolled for the coming school year
- b. A dispensary being built with funds granted by the "Bread for the World" organization.
- c. The foundations of a 60 X 30 meter church building. With recent financial pressures, the building project has been suspended.

(1) Pastor Kazadi said that they will continue as they can and when the walls are up, AIMM will put on the roof!

- d. Had a meeting with Kazadi, Ntumba and two others of their group. In a low-key manner Kazadi listed their primary needs and interests.

(1) The development of their Bible School

- (a) for the training of pastors
- (b) for the training of christian laymen

(2) The development of their Christian Ed program

(3) The strengthening of their Itinerating evangelism for purposes of ministry and church planting.

- (a) They would welcome missionary help in all three of these areas.

(4) As our meeting drew to a close, Pastor Kazadi wondered: "Has all of this just been casual conversation or can we expect that something will come of it?"

I. Rev. Mbiya Jacques, Regional Secretary for the ECZ and Legal Representative of the Presbyterian Church of the East Kasai. In a brief 20 minute visit in his office he shared two concerns:

- 1. The CMZA leaders of the area are fighting each other; they have abandoned their work as pastors to meddle in matters that are none of their concern.
 - a. They have taken each other to court and this to the shame of all Protestants here in this area.
 - b. The CMZA needs spiritual renewal.
- 2. The Church is in a period of limited freedom in Zaire. Unfortunately the ECZ has been of little help.
 - a. The Presbyterian Church on its own is pushing ahead with some activities which are supposed to be illegal.

J. STUDIPROKA

1. Mr. Muamba Mukengeshayi is the Zairian Director now. He gave us a very articulate review of the current studio activity and programming.
 - a. They presently are producing two hours of material a week for the Kananga radio station:
 - (1) "Dukudilenga" dealing with family life
 - (2) "Muntu wa Songo" dealing with personal conduct
 - (3) "Bukua bana sankai" dealing with children
 - (4) "Teleja nguambila" dealing with marriage and morals
 - b. Correspondence in response to these programs continues to run heavy. One person on staff devotes nearly full time to answering the mail. Much of his response takes the form of personal counselling with reference to scripture, pamphlets and tracts.
 - c. They have equipment to produce cassette tapes of messages and religious music. They cannot keep up with demand.
 - (1) Mr. Mukengeshayi asked if it would not be possible to have 2,000 albums of Tshiluba hymns pressed here in the States. He states that there would be tremendous sale for them.

K. LIPROKA

1. The Zairian Director, Mr. Kongolo Kabinga, explained the financial crisis now facing this organization.
2. Some contributing factors:
 - (a) Stocks once were purchased overseas and paid for in hard currency for sale in Zaire; this is no longer done.
 - (b) Tshiluba scripture stocks are exhausted and no new stock is in sight.
 - (c) The Luebo mission press has been closed down thus shutting off a major source of Tshiluba material.
 - (d) Inflation is hurting the average Zairian. When money is scarce, book sales drop.
 - (e) Mr. Kongolo complained that he is often criticized for the declining fortunes of Liproka; it is clear that he is the victim of a combination of difficult circumstances.
 - (f) His concluding comment: "Unless some serious new measures are taken, our next board meeting will be the occasion for confirming the death of Liproka."

L. MCC/CMZA

1. Phil Rich, new Zaire Country Director; he and Gwen had two good years at Nyanga; are strongly church oriented and will want to collaborate with AIMM/CMZA in whatever manners that are feasible.
2. Some current prospects:
 - a. Incorporation of vocational training with IB program
 - b. SEDA sponsored seminars for older pastors
 - c. Joint investigation of possible outreach into Angola

III. ANGOLA

- A. Civil War has erupted which rivals the turbulent days of the Rebellion in Congo in the 1960's.
- B. The FNLA (National Front for the Liberation of Angola) is strong in the north, and supported by Zaire and Red China, the MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) is strong along the coast and in Central Angola, supported by Russia. Fighting between these two groups has been raging in many places in recent weeks.
- C. Massive evacuation of whites continues; the Republic of South Africa has created special refugee camps and aids in the evacuation of refugees by air.
 1. Phil Rich has been attempting to arrange for sending relief supplies south across the border but had not yet been able to negotiate the matter with FNLA authorities.
 - a. They would accept all supplies but distribute them according to their needs and interests.
 2. Our CMZA leaders are much interested in a possible joint AIMM/CMZA/MCC ministry in Angola and are ready to make a fact-finding trip south of Tshikapa as soon as conditions permit.

IV. JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA

- A. Rev. Willie Cilliers; a descendant of French Huguenot immigrants, he now serves as the Secretary of Evangelism and Missions of the Black Dutch Reformed Church of South Africa, a position to which he was appointed by the church itself.

OBSERVATIONS and EVALUATIONS

by
Allan Wiebe

I. Roles of 65 Missionaries in Africa 1975 (Includes 13 MCC-related personnel)

See page 1-A

II. Observations/Impressions of Zaire

A. Some new vocabulary

1. Zaire Cities
 - a. Kinshasa
 - b. Kananga
 - c. Mbuji-Mayi
 - d. Kisangani
2. Provinces
 - a. Kasai Orientale
 - b. Kasai Occidentale
 - c. Bandundu
 - d. Shaba
3. Stations
 - a. Ndjoko Punda
 - b. Kalonda
4. Schools
 - a. Lycee
 - b. ETEK
 - c. L'EPROF
 - d. Maisons diaconales
5. Churches
 - a. ECZ
 - b. CMZA
 - c. CEM
6. Other
 - a. LIMZA, SEDA
 - b. auto-finance, citoyen, communauto, paroisse, foyers expatriates, proces verbal, procedure normale, formation de cadre, etc. revell spirituel

I. ROLES OF AIMM MISSIONARIES IN AFRICA 1975

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		<u>Evangelism/ Church Planting</u>	<u>Ministries of Nurture</u>	<u>Ministries of Compassion</u>			
				<u>School</u>	<u>Agri.</u>	<u>Medical</u>	<u>Special Support</u>
ZAIRE	(44)	4	14	6	4	10	6
LESOTHO	(4)		4				
BOTSWANA	(4)		4				
AIMM/MCC	(13)	—	—	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	—	<u>6</u>
TOTAL	(65)	4	22	10	7	10	12
Percentages		6%	34%	60%			

II. Some Maturing Mission/Missionary/Church Relationships

- A. There is more readiness among the missionaries to accept the church's leadership role in Zaire today and less reluctance to look to the church leaders for suggestions, ideas and direction.
- B. A spirit of congeniality, greater trust and appreciation is more in evidence as concerns CMZA/CEM and CMZA/CEM/AIMM relationships.
- C. More missionaries and church leaders are recognizing the need of determining priorities in the total mission of the church. There seems to be agreement that Evangelism/Outreach must continue to be on the top of the priority list.
- D. There is a general acceptance of the importance of a growing, fraternal partnership between the missionaries and church leaders in order that the goal of producing responsible christians and churches may be attained in today's Zaire.
- E. Mutual recognition and acceptance of the spiritual gifts Christ has given to the church in Zaire and to the missionaries who have come to work with and in the church.

III. Some Old Problems Which Persist

- A. Tribal tensions continue among the church leadership and district churches in general.
- B. Struggle for leadership roles in the church has not lessened.
- C. Financial crises continue to persist in the country.
- D. There is a continuing, nagging spirit of mistrust among national Christians and missionaries concerning funding, budgets, allocation of funds, etc.
- E. There is still a lack of sufficient and efficient personnel in almost every aspect of the church's ministry.
- F. There is an unceasing struggle for greater efficiency in communication -- mail service, radio, telegram, etc.
- G. More worn out and/or broken down vehicles, diesels and machines in general.

IV. Some Attitude Changes in the Country

- A. Less restraint is evident among the Zairois in regard to criticism of the government and its policies.
- B. A general spirit of pessimism prevails which may be due

partially to inflation, depleting stocks of goods, etc.

- C. The "nationalization of schools" has resulted in much confusion, misgivings and misunderstandings among the general public and particularly among the church leaders.
- D. Few Zairois seem to understand "mobutuism" with all of its implications; and not many appear to be very enthusiastic about it.
- E. The Inga-Shaba project and the enlarging of the Kananga and Mbuji-Mayi airstrips has brought a measure of optimism in at least a few areas of Zaire.

V. Some New Hopes and Aspirations in the Church

- A. The adaptation of the TEE principles to the specific needs of CMZA/CEM.
- B. A general concern expressed in regard to improved Christian Education materials; also, the responsibility of Christian parents in the total Christian education process was emphasized.
- C. A number of the church leaders expressed awareness of the deep spiritual needs among the membership of the church and particularly among the church leaders. The need for a spiritual revival was given as the only answer to this concern.
- D. Church leaders are in agreement in regard to the basic priorities of the church in Zaire today and are anxious to implement various strategies in order to realize the goals which they have set for each of these priorities.
- E. The challenge of Angola at this time is taken seriously by many of the church leaders. They are anxious to aid refugees and to share the Gospel with their neighbors to the south.
- F. Various programs of financial self-help are being considered in the context of the church in order that CMZA will be able to more adequately maintain itself and its activities.